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Organización
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Words of thanks

by

H.E. Dr Hao Ping

President of the General Conference

Vice-Minister of Education

of the People's Republic of China

At the occasion of his nomination as “Vignerons d'honneur” of the “Juridiction de Saint-Émilion”

Saint-Emilion, 13 June 2014

Mr Jacques Valade, Goodwill Ambassador of France for Asia
Mr de Wispelaere, Representative of the French Government
Mr Bernard Lauret, Mayor of Saint-Emillion
Mr Freddy Van Gaever, Vice-president of “Europe China Cultural and
Educational Foundation”
Mr Peter Kwok,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am proud, honored and humbled to receive before you today this prestigious title.

I am proud, because I know the spectacular rich history of the “Jurade de Saint-Emilion” and its renown within France and the rest of the world. The vineyard landscape of this region has been the first in Europe to be listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Convention List.

I am honoured, because you have placed your trust in me as your ambassador and a member of this long traditional vineyard community. I am indeed privileged to be a member of your family and will support this tradition whenever I have the opportunity.

Yes, I am humbled because I realize that the journey that has brought me to this stage today is not mine alone, but it is thanks to the long built legacy of UNESCO's active presence and support to this community and this region.

An investiture is never about an individual it is about a moment in history. In our case, it is about this moment — the moment when we celebrate thousand years of traditions and practices that have been transmitted from generation to generation, a moment to examine successful achievements in preserving this precious world heritage landscape along with its traditions. And to envision our future by entrusting more roles to our young people, the “Pairs de la Jurade” of tomorrow.

Once again, I thank you for giving me this esteemed title of the “Vignerons d'honneur”.

Thank you,